

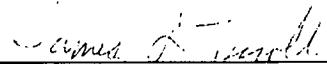
U.S. Patents

U.S. Patent No. 4,863,477	U.S. Patent No. 6,156,067
U.S. Patent No. 4,911,718	U.S. Patent No. 6,231,609
U.S. Patent No. 4,932,969	U.S. Patent No. 6,296,664
U.S. Patent No. 5,320,644	U.S. Patent No. 6,402,785
U.S. Patent No. 5,370,697	U.S. Patent No. 6,419,706
U.S. Patent No. 5,401,269	U.S. Patent No. 6,454,806
U.S. Patent No. 5,545,229	U.S. Patent No. 6,607,558
U.S. Patent No. 5,571,109	U.S. Patent No. 6,533,818
U.S. Patent No. 5,674,294	U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0016774 A1
U.S. Patent No. 5,676,702	U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0116009 A1
U.S. Patent No. 5,824,094	U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0045939 A1
U.S. Patent No. 5,893,889	U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0074071 A1
U.S. Patent No. 6,113,638	U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0074076 A1

Other - Publications

Japanese Patent Application No. 04106035	English Abstract provided
"Physical Properties and Functional Biomechanics of the Spine", Chapter 1, pages 1-19 and Reference pages 77-83	
"Mechanical Properties of Human Lumbar Spine Motion Segments Part II: Responses in Compression and Shear Influence of Gross Morphology", by Berkson, et al., Journal of Biomechanical Engineering February 1979, Vol. 101 pages 53-57	
"Some Static Mechanical Properties of the Lumbar Intervertebral Joint, Intact and Injured", by Tencer, et al., Journal of Biomechanical Engineering, August 1982, Vol. 104, pages 193-201	
"Variation of Lumbar Spine Stiffness with Load", by Edwards, et al., Journal of Biomechanical Engineering, February 1987, Vol. 109, pages 35-42	
"Limitations of the Standard Linear Solid Model of Intervertebral Discs Subject To Prolonged Loading And Low-Frequency Vibration In Axial Compression", by Li, et al., J. Biomechanics, Vol. 28, No. 7 Pages 779-790, 1995	
"Requirements for an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", Chapter 2, by Eijkelkamp, et al., Pages 25-42	
New U.S. Benzal, et al. patent application for METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REPLACING A DAMAGED SPINAL DISC, filed December 10, 2003, Attorney Docket No. AXM-6667.	
New U.S. Kuras, et al. patent application for METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REPLACING A DAMAGED SPINAL DISC, filed December 10, 2003, Attorney Docket No. AXM-6668.	

Respectfully submitted,


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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 6-89) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>										ATTY DOCKET NO.: AXM-6666		SERIAL NO. NA	
										APPLICANT: Benzel, et al.			
										FILING DATE: herewith			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS												
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4	8	6	3	4	7	7	Sep. 5, 1989	Monson	623	17	
	4	9	1	1	7	1	8	Mar. 27, 1990	Lee et al.	623	17	
	4	9	3	2	9	6	9	Jun. 12, 1990	Frey et al.	623	17	
	5	3	2	0	6	4	4	Jun. 14, 1994	Baumgartner	623	17	
	5	3	7	0	6	9	7	Dec. 6, 1994	Baumgartner	623	17	
	5	4	0	1	2	6	9	Mar. 28, 1995	Buttner-Janz et al.	623	17	
	5	5	4	5	2	2	9	Aug. 13, 1996	Parsons et al.	623	17	
	5	5	7	1	1	0	9	Nov. 5, 1996	Bertagnoli	606	61	
	5	6	7	4	2	9	4	Oct. 7, 1997	Bainville et al.	623	17	
	5	6	7	6	7	0	2	Oct. 14, 1997	Ratron	623	17	
	5	8	2	4	0	9	4	Oct. 20, 1998	Serhan et al.	623	17	
	5	8	9	3	8	8	9	Apr. 13, 1999	Harrington	623	17	
	6	1	1	3	6	3	8	Sep. 5, 2000	Williams et al.	623	17	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS														
	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION		
												YES	NO	
	0	4	1	0	6	0	3	5	Mar. 30, 1992	Japan			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	"Physical Properties and Functional Biomechanics of the Spine", Chapter 1, pages 1-19 and Reference pages 77-83
	"Requirements for an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", Chapter 2, by Eijkelkamp, et al., Pages 25-42

EXAMINER /Julianna Harvey/	DATE CONSIDERED 12/05/2007
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent applicants' attorney.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.H./

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 6-89) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO.: AXM-6666		SERIAL NO. N/A										
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		APPLICANT(S): Benzel, et al.												
		FILING DATE: herewith		GROUP: N/A										
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS														
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	6	1	5	6	0	6	7	Dec. 5, 2000	Bryan et al.	623	17			
	6	2	3	1	6	0	9	May 15, 2001	Mehdzadeh	623	17.11			
	6	2	9	6	6	6	4	Oct. 2, 2001	Middleton	623	17.15			
	6	4	0	2	7	8	5	Jun. 11, 2002	Zdeblick et al.	623	17.16			
	6	4	1	9	7	0	6	Jul. 16, 2002	Graf	623	17.16			
	6	4	5	4	8	0	6	Sep. 24, 2002	Cohen et al.	623	17.15			
	6	6	0	7	5	5	8	Aug. 19, 2003	Kuras	623	17.16			
	6	5	3	3	8	1	8	Mar. 18, 2003	Weber et al.	623	17.16			
	0	0	1	6	7	7	4	Aug. 23, 2001	Bresina et al.	623	17.15	Apr. 11, 2001		
	0	1	1	6	0	0	9	Aug. 22, 2002	Fraser et al.	606	99	Dec. 7, 2001		
	0	0	4	5	9	3	9	Mar. 6, 2003	Casutt	623	17.15	Aug. 23, 2002		
	0	0	7	4	0	7	1	Apr. 17, 2003	Errico et al.	623	17.14	Nov. 14, 2002		
	0	0	7	4	0	7	6	Apr. 17, 2003	Ferree et al.	623	17.16	Nov. 25, 2002		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS														
DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION		
													YES	NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)														
	"Mechanical Properties of Human Lumbar Spine Motion Segments Part II: Responses in Compression and Shear Influence of Gross Morphology", by Berkson, et al., Journal of Biomechanical Engineering February 1979, Vol. 101 pages 53-57													
	"Some Static Mechanical Properties of the Lumbar Intervertebral Joint, Intact and Injured", by Tencer, et al., Journal of Biomechanical Engineering, August 1982, Vol. 104, pages 193-201													
	"Variation of Lumbar Spine Stiffness with Load", by Edwards, et al., Journal of Biomechanical Engineering, February 1987, Vol. 109, pages 35-42													
	"Limitations of the Standard Linear Solid Model of Intervertebral Discs Subject To Prolonged Loading And Low-Frequency Vibration In Axial Compression", by Li, et al., J. Biomechanics, Vol. 28, No. 7 Pages 779-790, 1995													
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